کہ گھٹا دیا گیا جو پی۔۔ڈی۔ای۔ ایس۔ کا کوٹہ ہے۔ دیش کے ویگر حصوں میں بھی یہی ہے۔ بنگال میں سرکار کو اوپن مارکیٹ سے کہیوں خرید کر دینا پڑ رہا ہے۔ میں اس پر ھاف این آور ڈسکشن چاہتا ہوں۔

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I totally disagree with the statement made by the hon. Minister that there is an increase in price. ...*(Interruptions)*... We want a half-an-Hour Discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सोमपाल : कृषि मंत्री से कितनी बार निवेदन किया था कि कृषि नीति का निर्माण करें। वर्ष 1993 की रिपोर्ट पड़ी है। सरकार में जो जाता है, उसका वही हाल हो जाता है। **...(व्यवधान)...**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now the Question Hour is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : हम डिसकशन के लिए तैयार हैं। आप हाफ एन आवर चाहते हैं, हम दो घंटे के लिए तैयार हैं। आप जितना डिसकशन करना चाहें, कर सकते हैं, लेकिन वेस्ट बंगाल प्रोक्योरमेंट में एक टका नहीं देता है, जबकि उसका चावल का उत्पादन बढ़ा हुआ है। **...(व्यवधान)...**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. The Question Hour is over.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : सेंट्रल पूल में क्यों नहीं देते आप? अगर उड़ीसा दे सकता है तो वेस्ट बंगाल क्यों नहीं दे सकता प्रोक्योरमेंट के वास्ते? **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, this is extremely unfortunate. The whole Central Government is responsible. ...*(Interruptions)*... This we never expect from Shri Chaturahan Mishra.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Shortfall in Wheat Production

*484. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a heavy shortfall in wheat production during the current year;

(b) the wheat production during the last three years *viz* 1994, 1995 and 1996;

(c) the base price for procurement during the said years; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take to meet the shortfall during this year, if any?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. The production of wheat during the current crop year (1996-97) is expected to be 64.66 million tonnes which is higher by about 2 million tonnes over the production level of last year.

(b) The production of wheat during the last three years *i.e.* 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 59.84, 65.77 and 62.62 million tonnes, respectively.

(c) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat fixed by the Government for 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 crop years was Rs. 350, Rs. 360 and Rs. 380 per quintal, respectively. The MSP for 1996-97 has been fixed at Rs. 415 per quintal. In addition, a bonus of Rs. 60 per quintal has also been announced thus giving the cultivator a price of Rs. 475 per quintal of wheat procured.

(d) Production of wheat during the current year as also the imports of wheat during the year are likely to meet the demand of the country.